

1. (twice amended) A computer-based method of visually delineating a relationship between related graphical objects in a graphical user interface, the method comprising:

associating at least one icon with at least two diverse, but related graphical objects, said icon having an associated color scheme;

when one of said related graphical objects is displayed, displaying said icon within said displayed graphical object; and

wherein said displayed graphical objects are recognizable as related by the persistence of said icon with said associated color scheme in said displayed graphical objects.

5. (twice amended) A computer-based method of visually delineating a relationship between related graphical objects, as per claim 1, wherein said persistence of said icon with said associated color scheme provides user assistance when traversing a series of graphical templates.

7. (twice amended) A computer-based method of delineating a relationship between related graphical objects, said method comprising:

associating at least one icon with a first graphical object, said icon having an associated color scheme;

displaying a second graphical object diverse from, but related to said first graphical object;

displaying said icon within said second object, and

wherein said second object is recognizable as related to said first object by the persistence of said icon with said associated color scheme.

9. (twice amended) A computer-based method of delineating a relationship between related graphical objects, as per claim 7, wherein the persistence of said icon with said associated color scheme between said first and second objects provides user assistance when traversing a series of graphical templates.

15. (twice amended) A computer program product for use with a graphics display device, said computer program product comprising:

a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means included in said medium:

said computer readable program code means embodying a method for:

associating at least one icon with at least two diverse, but, related graphical objects, wherein said icon has an associated color scheme;

when one of said related graphical objects is displayed, displaying at least one replica of said icon within said displayed graphical object; and

wherein said displayed graphical objects are recognizable as related by the persistence of said icon with said associated color scheme in said displayed graphical objects.

18. (twice amended) A computer program product for use with a graphics display device, said computer program product as per claim 15, wherein said persistence of said icon with said associated color scheme provides user assistance when traversing a series of graphical templates.

21. (twice amended) A computer-based system with visually related graphical objects comprising:

at least one icon retained in computer storage, said icon having an associated color scheme and associated with a first graphical object;

a display visually instantiating one or more graphical objects diverse from, but related to said first graphical object;

wherein said icon with said associated color scheme is replicated within a visual space of said displayed one or more graphical objects related to said first object, and

wherein said one or more displayed objects are visually recognizable as related due to the persistence of said icon with said associated color scheme.

22. (twice amended) A computer-based system with visually related graphical objects as per claim 21, wherein the persistence of said icon with said associated color scheme between said first and related objects provides user assistance when traversing a series of graphical templates.

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Examiner's Office Action Dated 7/8/2002. Claims 12-14 & 19-20 have been cancelled as duplicative in view of U.S. Patent 6,184,881. The written description has been amended to contain the specific reference required by 35 U.S.C. § 120 to U.S. Patent 6,184,881, to which priority is claimed. Claims 1, 5, 7, 9 15, 18, 21, and 22 have been amended to replace the term "specified" with "associated" so as to maintain consistency in terminology between the written description and claims. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the remarks that follow.